

ed States. I cordially approve of the  
ed apprentice system for our national  
the, recommended by the Secretary of  
Navy.

he occurrence, during the last few  
th, of marine disasters of the most  
e nature, involving great loss of  
life, has produced intense emotions  
mpathy and sorrow throughout the coun-

It may well be doubted whether all  
e calamitous events are wholly attrib-  
e to the necessity and inevitable dan-  
e of the sea. The merchants, mariners,  
ship-builders of the United States are  
true, unsurpassed in far reaching enter-  
pr, skill, intelligence and courage, by any  
ns in the world. But, with the increas-  
amount of our commercial tonnage in  
aggregate, and the larger size and im-  
proved equipment of the ships now con-  
ducting, in the supply of reliable ser-

beginning to be very seriously felt.  
The inconvenience may, perhaps, be met,  
partly, by the regulation for the intro-  
uction, into our merchant ships, of indented  
rentices; which, while it would afford a  
ful and eligible occupation to numerous  
ing men, would have a tendency to raise  
character of seamen as a class. And  
deserving of serious reflection, whether  
ay not be desirable to revise the exist-  
ing laws for the maintenance of discipline  
upon which the security of life and  
erty on the ocean must to so great an  
ent depend. Although much attention  
already been given by Congress to the  
uper construction and arrangement of  
am vessels and all passenger ships, still  
is believed that the achievements of sci-  
ence and mechanical skill in this direction  
are not exhausted. No good reason  
exists for the maintenance of discipline  
upon our statutes between the laws for  
recting life and property at sea, and those  
protecting them on land. In most of  
States severe penalties are provided to  
ish conductors of trains, engineers, and  
her employed in the transportation of per-  
sons by railway, or by steamboats on rivers.

Why should not the same principle be ap-  
plied to acts of insubordination, cowardice,  
other misconduct on the part of masters  
of mariners, producing injury or death to  
passengers on the high seas, beyond the ju-  
isdiction of any of the States, and where  
ch delinquencies can be reached only by  
e power of Congress? The whole sub-  
ect is earnestly commended to your consid-  
eration.

The report of the Postmaster General, to  
hich you are referred for many interesting  
ails in relation to this important and ex-  
tending branch of the public service,  
shows that the expenditure of the year end-  
ing June 30, 1854, including \$133,483 of  
aidance due to foreign offices, amounted to  
\$7,110,907. The gross receipts during the  
me period amounted to \$5,956,386; exhib-  
ing an expenditure over income of \$1,154,521,  
and a diminution of deficiency as com-  
pared with last year, of \$361,756.

The increase of the revenue of the de-  
partment, for the year ending June 30, 1854,  
ver the preceding year, was nine hundred  
nd seventy thousand three hundred and  
nety-nine dollars. No proportionate in-  
crease, however, can be anticipated for the  
urrent year, in consequence of the act of  
Congress of June 23, 1854, providing for  
ncreased compensation to all postmasters.

From these statements it is apparent that  
the Post Office Department, instead of defray-  
ing its expenses, according to the design of  
the time of its creation, is now, and under  
existing laws must continue to be, to no  
small extent, a charge upon the general  
treasury.

The cost of mail transportation, during the  
year ending June 30, 1854, exceeds the cost  
of the preceding year by four hundred and  
ninety-five thousand and seventy-four dol-  
lars. I again call your attention to the sub-  
stantial transportation of the mail, and com-  
mend the suggestion of the Post-  
master General to your early attention.

During the last fiscal year eleven million  
seventy thousand nine hundred and thirty-  
five acres of public lands have been surveyed,  
and eight million one hundred and ninety  
thousand and seventeen acres brought into  
market. The number of acres sold is seven  
million thirty-five thousand seven hundred  
and thirty-five, and the amount received  
thereof nine million two hundred and eighty-  
five thousand five hundred and thirty-three  
dollars. The aggregate amount sold, located  
under military scrip and land warrants,  
selected as swamp lands by States, and by  
locating under grants for roads, is upwards  
of twenty-three millions of acres.

The increase of lands sold over the pre-  
vious year, is about six millions of acres; and  
the sale during the two first quarters of the  
present year presents the extraordinary result  
of five and a half million sold, exceeding by  
nearly four millions of acres the sales of the  
corresponding quarters of the last year, thus  
increasing to an extent unparalleled during  
any like period in our past history the amount  
of revenue provided from this source for the  
Federal Treasury.

The commendable policy of the govern-  
ment in relation to settling upon public do-  
main for those who wish to acquire the same  
time of war, is illustrated by the fact, that  
since 1790, no less than thirty millions of  
acres have been applied to this object.

The suggestions, which I submitted in my  
annual message of last year, in reference to  
grants of land in aid of the construction of  
railways, were less full and explicit than the  
magnitude of the subject and subsequent de-  
velopments would seem to render proper  
and desirable. Of two sets of questions the  
principle then asserted with regard to the  
limitation of the power of Congress, I entertain  
no doubt; but in its application it is not  
enough that the value of lands in a particular  
locality may be enhanced, that, in fact, a  
larger amount of money may probably be re-  
ceived in a given time, for alternate sections,  
than could have been realized for all the sec-  
tions, without the impulse and influence of  
the proposed improvement.

A prudent proprietor looks beyond limited  
sections of his domain, beyond present re-  
gulation, to the ultimate effect which a par-  
ticular line of policy is likely to produce upon  
all his possessions and interests. The govern-  
ment which is trustee in the matter, for the  
people of the States, is bound to take the  
same wise and comprehensive view.

Prior to, and during the last session of Con-  
gress, upwards of thirty millions of acres of  
public land was withdrawn from public sale  
with a view to applications for grants of this  
character pending before Congress.

A careful review of the whole subject led  
me to direct that all such orders be abrogated,  
and the lands restored to market, and in-  
structions were immediately given to that  
effect. The applications at the last session  
contemplated the construction of more than  
five thousand miles of road, and grants to the  
amount of nearly twenty millions of acres of  
the public domain.

Even admitting the right on the part of  
Congress to be unquestionable, it is quite  
clear that the proposed grants would be pro-  
jective of good, and not evil! The different  
projects are confined for the present, to eleven  
States of this Union, and one Territory.

The reason assigned for the grants, show  
that it is proposed to put the works speedily  
in process of construction. When we re-  
flect that since the commencement of  
railways in the United States, stimulated as  
they have been by the large dividends real-  
ized from the earlier works over the great  
thoroughfares, and between the most im-  
portant points of commerce and population,  
encouraged by State legislation, and pressed  
forward by the amazing energy of pri-  
vate enterprise, only seventeen thousand

miles have been completed in all the States  
in a quarter of a century—when we see  
the crippled condition of many works com-  
menced and prosecuted upon what was  
deemed to be sound principles, and safe  
calculations—when we contemplate the  
enormous absorption of capital withdrawn  
from the ordinary channels of business, the  
extravagant rates of interest at this mo-  
ment paid to continue operations, the bank-  
ruptcies not merely in money, but in char-  
acter, and the inevitable effect upon finan-  
ces generally—can it be doubted that the  
tendency is to run to excess in this matter?  
Is it wise to augment this excess by encour-  
aging hopes of sudden wealth expected to  
flow from magnificent schemes dependent  
upon the action of Congress?

Does the spirit, which has produced such  
results, need to be animated or checked?—  
Is it not the better rule to leave all these  
works to private enterprise, regulated, and  
when expedient, aided, by the co-operation  
of States? If constructed by private capital,  
the stimulus and the check go together,  
and furnish a salutary restraint against spec-  
ulative schemes and extravagance. But it  
is manifest that, with the most effective  
guards, there is danger of going too fast and  
too far.

We may well pause before a proposition  
for completing a simultaneous movement for  
the construction of railroads, which, in ex-  
tent, will equal, exclusive of the great Pa-  
cific road and all its branches, nearly one-  
third of the entire length of such works,  
now completed, in the United States, and  
which cannot cost, with equipments, less  
than one hundred and fifty millions of dol-  
lars. The dangers likely to result from con-  
tinuation of interests of this character, can  
hardly be over-estimated.

But independently of these considerations,  
where is the accurate knowledge, the com-  
prehensive intelligence which shall dis-  
criminate between the relative claims of  
these twenty-eight proposed roads, in eleven  
States and one Territory? When will you  
begin, and where end? If to enable these  
companies to execute their proposed  
works, it is necessary that the aid of the  
general government be primarily given, the  
policy will present a problem so compre-  
hensive in its bearings, and so important to  
our political and social well being, as to  
claim, in anticipation, the severest analysis.

Entertaining these views, I recur with sat-  
isfaction to the experience and action of the  
last session of Congress, as furnishing as-  
surance that the subject will not fail to re-  
ceive a careful re-examination and right  
scrutiny.

It was my intention to present, on this  
occasion, some suggestions regarding inter-  
nal improvements by the general govern-  
ment, which want of time at the close of  
the last session prevented my submitting  
to the return to the House of the Represen-  
tatives, with objections, of the bill entitled,  
"An Act making appropriations for the re-  
pair, preservation and completion of cer-  
tain public works heretofore commenced under  
authority of law;" but the space in this  
communication already occupied by other  
matter of immediate public exigency, con-  
strains me to reserve that subject for a spe-  
cial message, which will be submitted to  
the two Houses of Congress at an early  
date.

The judicial establishment of the United  
States requires modification, and certain  
reforms in the manner of conducting the  
legal business of the government are also  
the time of its creation, is now, and under  
existing laws must continue to be, to no  
small extent, a charge upon the general  
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## The Portage Sentinel.

A. HART EDITOR.



RAVENNA, OHIO:

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 13, 1854.

### The Presidents Message.

The Presidents Message will be found in  
today's paper. It is an able document and  
will pay for a careful perusal. For strength,  
clearness, and sound argument, it will com-  
pare well with any document of the kind ever  
presented to the consideration of Con-  
gress. The subjects of home and foreign  
policy, are of deep interest to American citi-  
zens, and the recommendations made in re-  
ference to legislative action thereto, will we  
think, meet the cordial approval of the peo-  
ple throughout the country.

At the present time, when wars are raging  
in the old world, and insurrections and pi-  
ratical excursions are so frequently set on  
foot in the new, it requires on the part of  
the Chief Executive of our Government, a  
steady nerve and unshaken determination to  
guide and control our affairs so as to preserve  
the integrity of the nation, and yet keep on  
friendly terms with all foreign powers. Ma-  
ny difficult and embarrassing questions of  
international policy, have been presented  
within the past year. All of these, have  
been settled upon the broad principles of Na-  
tional Justice; and so long as these are ad-  
hered to, there is but little danger of embar-  
rassment from "entangling alliances."

By reference to the message it will be  
seen that the financial affairs of the govern-  
ment, are in a prosperous condition. Over  
twenty-two million dollars of the public debt  
have been paid off within the year, and the  
amount remaining in the Treasury unexpended,  
after paying all ordinary and extraordi-  
nary expenses of the government is more than  
twenty millions. The revenue and expendi-  
tures of the government for the last year are in  
round numbers as follows:

Balances in Treasury of last year	\$20,000,000
General Revenue	\$75,000,000
Total	\$95,000,000
Expenses for the year	\$75,000,000
Public Debt	\$20,000,000
Total	\$95,000,000

We have not time to comment upon the  
different features of the message at present.  
It will be considered carefully by Congress,  
and as the different propositions come up for  
discussion, we shall speak of them more at  
length. The session of Congress just be-  
gun, bids fair to be one of considerable in-  
terest. There is hardly a measure of any  
prominence pending in either House, but  
has ardent friends and bitter enemies. The  
representatives of almost every variety and  
shade of political sentiment, can be found  
there, and the consequence is that every sub-  
ject will be likely to undergo careful exami-  
nation. We shall favor our readers weekly,  
with a synopsis of the proceedings.

### Ministers and Politics.

The good people of the country have usual-  
ly been greatly averse to a union of Church  
and State. From present indications, it  
would seem that some sort of an alliance  
in progress between the two powers. The  
pulpit in certain sections has certainly put  
its finger very deep into politics of late. A  
New York writer in one of the morning pa-  
pers states that there were no less than nine  
sermons advertised to be preached in that  
city on a late Sabbath in reference to the  
then approaching State election; and among  
the speakers at a political meeting held in  
New York last week, we notice the names  
of two city pastors. Neither of these, we are  
happy to say, was Old School Presbyterian.

It is true that the object ostensibly aimed  
at, was the promotion of temperance—a good  
cause, certainly, but, in this instance, so con-  
nected with political partisanship that it was  
impossible for ministers to take a public part  
without entering the arena of the political  
strife. We have our doubts whether the  
cause itself will gain by clerical advocacy in  
such a connection; and we feel assured that  
mingling in the platform discussions, under  
such circumstances, will not add much to  
the weight and influence of ministerial char-  
acter. Even those who are to be politically  
benefitted by such aid would probably prefer  
that the clergy should confine themselves to  
their appropriate sphere, and to preaching  
the Gospel, and leave the political election-  
eering to those to whose province it more ap-  
propriately belongs. If ministers may in-  
terfere in one instance, they may in others;  
and if they are to leave the pulpit to drag  
their garments in the mire of politics, we  
fear there will be a gloomy day both for the  
Church and the State.—From the Presby-  
terian.

The body of Sir John Franklin found  
by Dr. Kane.—The Lake Superior Mining  
News, of November 9 contains the follow-  
ing:

"By private letters we learn that the bod-  
ies of Sir John Franklin and his men have  
been found by Dr. Kane's party, frozen, pre-  
served and uncorrupted."

"In our last number we gave the report of  
the intelligence derived from some of the  
Esquimaux Indians, of the discovery of some  
of the silver used by Franklin's expedition  
and marked with his initials. The latter re-  
port is of the discovery of the bodies, and  
from our authority we have the right to be-  
lieve it to be true."

The editor makes no mention of the  
source of his information, nor of the direc-  
tion whence it came.

The dentists of New York held a public  
meeting on Monday evening, to take some  
action in the case of Dr. S. T. Beale. A  
large number were present and some start-  
ling revelations were made with regard to  
the halquinations and false impressions pro-  
duced by chloroform. We may refer to this  
subject at some future day.—Post.

### The Funeral of H. T. Seymour.

The funeral of the late HENRY T. SEY-  
mour was attended on Thursday last at the  
Congregational Church. Notwithstanding the  
inclemency of the weather, the exer-  
cises were attended by a large audience,  
who came, many of them, from distant parts  
of the county, to pay the last sad tribute of  
respect and affection, to the memory of one  
whose noble and many virtues, while living,  
had gained for him the confidence of all,  
and whose sudden death has cast a shade of  
gloom over our whole community.

The Cleveland, Akron and Wellsville  
Lodges of the Independent Order of Odd  
Fellows were expected to be present, but  
were unable to get here on account of the  
detention of the trains on the Railroad.

The sermon was preached by Rev. Mr.  
Wagner, of Cleveland. The exercises  
throughout, were solemn and impressive.  
His remains were followed to the grave by  
his brother Odd Fellows of the Ravenna  
Lodge, where they mingled their evergreen  
with the earth that lies upon the bosom of  
their friend, in testimony of their respect  
for his many virtues, and as a renewal of  
their pledge to be true to his memory, and to  
the interests of the wife and child he  
leaves behind him.

Our thanks are due to RUSSEL D.  
KELLEY, Esq., for a copy of the Council  
Bluff Bugle. We are glad to be remem-  
bered in this way by our friends in the "prairie  
land." The number sent us, contains many  
valuable items of information. Among oth-  
er things, a full account is given of the re-  
cent fire in that town by which about \$40,  
000 worth of property was destroyed.

APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.—We  
learn from Washington that Geo. B. MER-  
win has been appointed Consul at Valparaiso,  
in place of REXFORD WOOD, resigned.

We issue our paper ahead of time  
this week, that our subscribers may receive  
the President's Message, and the proceed-  
ings of Congress at an early day.

YOUTH'S CASSET.—The January number  
of this interesting magazine for the young  
has been sent us. It is certainly a valuable  
work and is calculated to do good. Sub-  
scribe for it. The terms are low, only fifty  
cents a year. Address E. F. BEADLE, 199  
Main street, Buffalo.

Literary Association.  
An adjourned meeting of the Literary As-  
sociation of Ravenna, will be held at the  
Town Hall, on Friday evening, Dec. 15th  
at half-past six o'clock, to hear the report of  
a committee, appointed at a meeting held  
last evening, to draft a constitution for the  
Association.

There will be short addresses on that oc-  
casion, and it is hoped that there will be  
exhibited a decided interest in this association  
by a full attendance.

Dec. 9th, 1854. P. B. COXART Sec'y.

SPIRIT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD.  
The London correspondent of the New  
York Times writes that during the pend-  
ing the Soule difficulty the Americans re-  
siding in Paris, numbering from 1800 to  
2000, declared that they would leave  
France with Mr. Mason, if he should be  
compelled to do so on being denied the  
asked for apology.—Pitts. Post.

Know-Nothings vs. Catholics.  
MESSRS. EDITORS:—

As there is still guaranteed to us the free-  
dom of speech and of the press, it may be  
amiss to note some of the peculiarities of  
the party called Know-Nothings, as at pres-  
ent organized among us. That there is such  
an organization in this place is evident. The  
animal can be seen with the naked eye,  
though like a mushroom it is a creature of  
the night. The organization in this place  
was effected by certain leaders of the Free-  
soil party who reside in Ravenna, under the  
plea of no party as they did not wish to have  
politics enter into their creed. To protect the  
American interest and the protestant religion  
against foreign influence and catholicism,  
was to be the work of these new re-  
formers. The Methodist denomination with  
a majority of the others (congregational and  
Baptist) was first to embrace this new  
doctrine.

This was an appeal for them to come up to  
the work and defend their religion; the cath-  
olics were about taking the reins of govern-  
ment into their own hands, and nothing  
could save the country but a society of Know  
Nothings in Charleston.

Now Congress ought to make liberal ap-  
propriations for the erection of a Monument  
to perpetuate the memory of these men,  
who have sacrificed their political lives to  
protect the protestant religion, and particu-  
larly, those who acted as musicians for them.  
They were wrapped in thick clothing and  
oil-cloth coats. The east pier was crowd-  
ed by thousands of people.

The propeller Paganuzzi is firing up and  
will go alongside the Omer, to take off of the  
crew. We are now confident of their safety.

STILL LATER—3 1/2 P. M.  
The Paganuzzi has been to the vessel, but  
failed to get the crew off. One of them  
attempting to get on board was drowned.

The Propeller will make another attempt  
to rescue the crew.

At four o'clock the Paganuzzi made a sec-  
ond attempt to reach the wreck, succeeded,  
and took the crew, four men, and the man  
who had sprung from the propeller to the  
wreck. The feat was greeted by cheers of  
thousands assembled upon the east pier.

Two men were lost from the wreck and  
one from the pier, the latter being struck by  
a rope and thrown into the river where he  
was drowned.—Exchange.

Governor A. H. Reeder, of Kansas terri-  
tory, it seems, has put off the election of a  
Territorial Legislature until next spring—  
a measure which has drawn upon him the hos-  
tility of the Missouri slave-extensionists.

The latter may quirm, but they are  
bound to be defeated. Kansas will come in  
as a free State.

Several Missionaries have sailed from  
Boston for Honolulu.

on your honor as an American to sustain and  
abide by, without any hesitation or mental  
reservation whatever, so help you God and  
keep you steadfast."

Now I would enquire if this is a part of the  
protestant religion? If so, I would say to the  
protestant churches I believe you are in dan-  
ger, you contain within yourselves the ele-  
ments of your own destruction. If your re-  
ligion is based upon the principles of eter-  
nal truth it will stand, for he whom you de-  
clare to be your "living head" has said that  
"the gates of Hell shall not prevail against  
his church." Just look for one moment at  
the consistency of the thing, a secret orga-  
nization of protestants to put down a secret  
organization of Catholics! For the last two  
years you have been urging upon our govern-  
ment the necessity of taking active meas-  
ures to ensure free protestant worship in Rome,  
at the same time you are secretly laying your  
plans to deprive the catholic of his civil and  
religious rights in this country. And what I  
ask is the necessity for all this? If you will  
take the trouble to examine the census re-  
ports for the last twenty years you will find  
that the catholic population is about one  
in seven and that it does not keep pace  
with our rapid increase of protestantism.

But this cry against catholicism is all a  
bunbun. It is to effect certain political ends.

Every Whig in this town is in it, and the  
whole scheme is contained in a nut-shell.—  
The Whig party were about to become ex-  
tinct, something must be done. The leaders  
got together and agreed upon this plan of  
religious persecution. They have rode every  
hobby from a national Bank down to a cider  
barrel, and now they expect to ride into pow-  
er on the back of a catholic Priest. "Verily  
there are stranger things twist heaven  
and earth than are dreamt of in our philos-  
ophy."

MORE ANOX.  
Charlestown, Dec. 8th, 1854.

Terrible Gale—Wreck of the schr.  
Omer—Life lost—Perilous Situa-  
tion of the Crew.

At one o'clock this morning, in attempt-  
ing to enter Cleveland harbor, in a driving  
snow storm, the schooner Omer, from Oa-  
wego, laden with salt, missed the channel,  
and went hard upon the stone, and between  
the half-broken piles of the West Pier.

The persons on board were ALPHREUS  
KEICH, of French Creek, Captain; his broth-  
ers MILTON and JAMES KEICH; JAMES BURR;  
HENRY LANSBORO; and JAMES MCCARTY, of  
Owego, cook.

At eight o'clock a very heavy sea was set-  
ting in, the crew were gathered upon the  
forecastle, and an attempt was made from  
the end of the new west pier, some 400  
feet from the vessel to send out the Govern-  
ment life-boat, but it was stove upon the  
stone and piles, as was the life-boat of the  
propeller California. The sea increased  
in force, drenching the crew as it swept  
over the schooner; and at 11 o'clock, a line  
having been secured from the head of the  
foremast to the West pier, JAMES BURR at-  
tempted upon it, to reach the shore.

Hand over hand, he proceeded a short  
portion of the distance, when, benumbed  
and weak, he was unable to go on, and at  
length fell some forty feet, into the water.

For five minutes he clung to a pile, and  
then, washed off by the sea, struck out for  
the East Pier, but was drowned.

Soon after, another line having been se-  
cured from the head of the foremast to the  
pier, MILTON KEICH fastened a sling to it,  
and attempted a passage. Arriving at a  
spot where the rope had been spliced, he  
was unable to pass it, and hung suspended  
and powerless.

For fifteen minutes the crowd upon the  
East pier stood mute and anxious, almost  
sure that no power could save the doomed  
Sailor. At length his brother, the Captain,  
climbed to the mast head and cut the line,  
thus severing what seemed for those on  
board, the only hope of safety. MILTON  
dropped with the line, into the water, and  
was drawn in safety upon the pier.

At two o'clock this afternoon, efforts  
were being made to save those who remain-  
ed on board, and the Cleveland Light artill-  
ery were preparing to fire line over the  
vessel, and thus secure a communication  
with the shore.

At daylight the schooner Pearl went  
ashore west of the pier. She is safe and  
will be got off with little damage.

At noon the schooner Monsoon and the  
brig Roscius came in handsomely amid the  
hearty and heartfelt cheers of hundreds of  
anxious watchers.

LATER.  
At two o'clock the brig Alvan Hunt of De-  
troit, and the schooner Champlain of De-  
troit came into port handsomely.

The men upon the Omer were seemingly  
in good condition, although every sea was  
making a clean breach over the vessel.—  
They were wrapped in thick clothing and  
oil-cloth coats. The east pier was crowd-  
ed by thousands of people.

The propeller Paganuzzi is firing up and  
will go alongside the Omer, to take off of the  
crew. We are now confident of their safety.

STILL LATER—3 1/2 P. M.  
The Paganuzzi has been to the vessel, but  
failed to get the crew off. One of them  
attempting to get on board was drowned.

The Propeller will make another attempt  
to rescue the crew.

At four o'clock the Paganuzzi made a sec-  
ond attempt to reach the wreck, succeeded,  
and took the crew, four men, and the man  
who had sprung from the propeller to the  
wreck. The feat was greeted by cheers of  
thousands assembled upon the east pier.

Two men were lost from the wreck and  
one from the pier, the latter being struck by  
a rope and thrown into the river where he  
was drowned.—Exchange.

Governor A. H. Reeder, of Kansas terri-  
tory, it seems, has put off the election of a  
Territorial Legislature until next spring—  
a measure which has drawn upon him the hos-  
tility of the Missouri slave-extensionists.

The latter may quirm, but they are  
bound to be defeated. Kansas will come in  
as a free State.

Several Missionaries have sailed from  
Boston for Honolulu.

### Bloody Fight at Cairo!

SIX OR EIGHT PERSONS SHOT.

A Wharf Boat burned by the mob—The Town  
defiled by a negro—His self-immolation by  
drowning.

We learn from Capt. Batchelor, as well  
as from several others of his passengers—  
who were witnesses of this bloody scene—  
the following particulars of a fearful trag-  
edy, enacted at the town of Cairo, at the  
mouth of the Ohio. The character who  
performed such desperate deeds was a free  
negro, well-known in this city by the name  
of Joe Spencer.

He had established a sort of floating  
hotel at that point, was a sharp fellow at  
every game, and, as the sequel proves, was  
afraid of nothing human, and in his last  
moments—surrounded by an infuriated mob,  
armed with death-dealing guns, cut off from  
all